GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2185
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Agricultural Research
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural research has been plagued by severe under investment and neglect;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to spearhead agricultural research with a view to augment agricultural production in the country;

(d) whether it is a fact that the spending on agricultural research in the country is considerably below that of China and the contribution of agriculture sector to GDP is less than those of Bangladesh and Indonesia; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to increase the allocations for agricultural research?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) The public expenditure on agricultural research and education was 0.60% of agricultural gross domestic product (GDP) at all-India level for TE 2013-14. The suggested norm is of one per cent. There may be some underinvestment in view of high payoffs, but there is no neglect on the government side as total plan outlay of Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE) is increasing with commencement of five year plans.

Total plan outlay of DARE (Rs. Crore)

8th Plan	9th Plan	10th Plan	11th Plan	12th Plan
1300.00	3376.95	5368.00	12023.00	25553.00

(b) The research investment intensity is rising subject to availability of resources with the Government.

(c) The efforts undertaken by the government are targeting of research programmes, resource generation, intensification of frontline extension with KVKs, and make available technology related inputs to augment agriculture production in the country.

(d) The public spending on agricultural research in India has been lower than that in China. However, the public spending in India is much higher than that in Bangladesh and Indonesia.

(e) Agricultural research intensity for China was 0.60% of AgGDP in 2010, and for Bangladesh 0.40% of AgGDP during 1991-2010, obtained from international publication (ASTI − CGIAR). However, agricultural research and education intensity for India (as per NIAP estimates) was 0.60% of AgGDP for TE 2013-14.

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